

LABOR DAY 1953

MONTEREY COUNTY

Labor News

Covering the Counties of Monterey and San Benito

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SALINAS, CALIF., TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1953

WHOLE NO. 774

Randolph Fenchel Succumbs; His Passing a Loss to Labor

Randolph Fenchel, prominent Salinas labor leader for many years, passed away unexpectedly on Monday evening in a Salinas hospital.

Death came just a day after he had been rushed to the hospital with complications arising from failure of a major abdominal operation late last March.

Bro. Fenchel was superintendent at the Salinas Sewage Treatment Plant for many years, rising to the top of his field and known as a foremost sanitary engineer in the state. He had taught college courses on subjects pertaining to sewage treatment.

In the labor movement, Bro. Fenchel had served as president of Laborers Union 272 of Salinas for many years before retiring from the post last year.

He was president of the Labor Temple Association, which owns and operates the Salinas Labor Temple. He was known throughout the state as delegate to various conventions and council meetings.

As former delegate and leader in the Monterey County Central Labor Union at Salinas, Bro. Fenchel had been chairman of various important committees and an active executive board member on occasion. He was originator of the annual Christmas parties for children in Salinas, sponsored first by the Laborers Union and in recent years expanded to such a scope that the Labor Council and all unions in the Salinas area were co-sponsors.

Late last year he had become ill with an abdominal ailment and was taken to a San Francisco hospital in March for a major operation. Although he had been able to assume some of his many duties, the operation had not been too successful and he had been forced to remain under doctor's care, friends said.

His wife, Mrs. Olga Fenchel, and their two children survive. Mrs. Fenchel's sister is Mrs. Lillian Johnson, office secretary of Laborers Union 272. Funeral services had not been completed at time of this report.

His passing is widely mourned by a host of friends in the Monterey County region.

BAKERS OFFER MOVIE

Chicago (LPA)—A movie, in color and with sound, of the Pasadena Tournament of Roses is offered to local unions by the AFL Bakery and Confectionery Workers. The film includes views of the union's entry, "The Good Ship Lollipop," in the Rose Parade.

Schnitzler Alerts Entire AFL On "Trade Union Courier"

Washington (LPA)—Indicating the importance placed by the AFL on the kind of activities involved, Secretary-Treasurer William F. Schnitzler has written all affiliated international unions, state federations, central bodies and federal labor unions, alerting them to the current attempt of the "Trade Union Courier" to obtain Labor Day statements from AFL officials and warning against responding.

These statements are obtained from AFL leaders and later "used in high pressure solicitation for advertising," Schnitzler explained. He recalled that the AFL Executive Council has made it clear that: 1) "The Trade Union Courier" is not in any way connected with the AFL and does not speak for the AFL; 2) No endorsement of any kind has been given by the AFL or any of its representatives to the "Courier," and 3) The Council believes that the "Courier" is not helpful to the AFL and for that reason asks that affiliated unions withhold giving any aid or assistance to this publication. Schnitzler asked that all unions advise any businessmen inquiring about the "Courier" of the AFL official stand on the matter.

Laborers: Sign Welfare Plan Cards at Once

All members of Laborers Local 272 of Salinas were asked last week to sign and return the enrollment cards in compliance with the new Laborers Health and Welfare Plan.

Any member who has not signed his card, listing a beneficiary and dependents, is NOT covered by the insurance as he should be. In event of a claim, the man's wife and family may suffer if the cards are not filled out.

Union laborers should contact the union office to sign the cards and to learn full information. If any question, call the office.

CARPENTERS: WELFARE DATA NOW AT OFFICE

TO ALL UNION CARPENTERS: Pamphlets which explain the new health and welfare plan for union carpenters have been received by your local union office. Every member should have one of these pamphlets so he will know just what the benefits may be in event of illness or other claim for payment.

The pamphlets, which explain all procedure in the welfare plan as well as benefits, are available for all members who ask for them at the union office.

Carpenters 1323 Have New Phone

A new telephone number is in effect for Monterey Carpenters Union 1323 at the union's headquarters, 778 Hawthorne Street, Monterey.

Members are asked to dial 2-7511 for union business henceforth.

Business Agent Thomas Eide has a new residence telephone number also -- 5-7242.

Members are reminded that they may secure their health and welfare plan booklets at the union office as soon as they present their Blue Cross identification cards. No booklets are released except upon presentation of the Blue Cross cards.

Fed. Upset Over Carp. Secession

By BILJ. PEDIGO

Representative, California Labor Press

Weary delegates were back at their homes this week after five grueling days in San Francisco attending the 51st Convention of the California State Federation of Labor—days so crammed with business that several scheduled speakers were unable to be heard.

Highlight of the convention came in the final hours when C. J. Haggerty, executive secretary of the Federation, answered the numerous queries regarding the status of carpenter unions by telling the carpenter delegates:

"As far as we are concerned you are still an affiliate of the California State Federation of Labor—and we hope you always will be!"

His words touched off a prolonged period of cheers and applause as convention delegates showed the carpenters in no uncertain terms that they disapproved of the withdrawal of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters from the A. F. of L.

Three Federation vice presidents representing carpenter unions had been elected prior to the withdrawal of the international union. These men, Roy Brewer of San Pedro, Chris T. Lehmann of Los Angeles and Robert Giesick of Greenville, still hold their official posts.

None of the carpenter delegates left the convention and the attitude of all was summed up in Haggerty's description of the report of the carpenter-A. F. of L. dispute as "very sad news." Officials of several local councils declared openly that they would take no action against carpenter affiliates, even though the A. F. of L. heads might order expulsion.

CONTROVERSY

Greatest controversy of the convention was over a resolution designed to give the Federation executive council the authority to determine importance of legislative bills to be submitted to state lawmakers, rather than be bound by convention action which sometimes ordered "undesirable" bills presented.

Small unions mustered sufficient individual voice votes to reject the resolution, but power of larger unions was shown in the roll-call ballot following in which the rejection effort was defeated 257,135 to 139,442. Efforts to have the subject referred to next year's convention failed in a voice vote.

Important resolutions were adopted on a variety of subjects, many covered in the executive council's pre-convention statement of policy, upheld throughout the convention.

Resolutions urged revision of the McCarran-Walter Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, expansion of federal Social Security, tax reduction, commendation of Governor Warren's "friendly to labor" acts at the last legislature, and similar programs.

For the first time, the Federation dropped its demands for outright repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act and urged instead that the act be subjected to a "far-reaching modification" to make it more workable and fairer to unions.

189 RESOLUTIONS

In all there were 189 resolutions submitted. Many were duplicates and many had been covered by the official policy statement and were dropped. Others were referred to the executive council for disposition.

The policy statement covered

Carpenters May Stay, Like Machinists Did

Possibility that the Carpenters, key union in local labor movements, may stay in local councils, contribute financially, and continue mutual cooperation with other trades, in the same way that local Machinists unions did during the two-year secession of the I.A.M. from the AFL, was seen by union leaders this week. Such procedure would make possible the continued harmonious operation of the local labor movement, it was pointed out, during the time it takes for top leaders to adjust differences at that level.

such points as: Increased efforts for international mutual security and economic cooperation, full employment and wage increases on a par with productivity increases; improved national and local public relations, minimum wage of \$1.25 an hour, tax reductions and opposition to any national sales taxes, improved and expanded social security, enactment of an adequate national housing program, protection of individual civil rights, national and local educational programs for unionists, opposition to importation of alien agricultural labor, expansion of state water and power development programs.

Congressman Jack Shelley's excellent speech, in which he told of actions and lack of actions by Congress, topped the program of speakers. Shelley termed the last Congressional session as "disappointing and frustrating" and said that little was accomplished. His talk was followed by a standing ovation from the 2000 delegates.

Speakers included Lloyd Mashburn, under-secretary of labor, who startled the assemblage with a word of praise for the late Senator Robert Taft; Lieut. Gov. Goodwin Knight, who suggested that a fact-finding committee reporting to the public on wages and conditions in various industries might

(Continued on Page Eight)

Carpenters Out of AFL

(AFL Release)

Chicago.—The Carpenters Union withdrew from the American Federation of Labor at the Executive Council session here after the AFL had endorsed a no-raiding pact with the CIO.

Maurice A. Hutcheson, general president of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, announced the withdrawal of his union in a letter which he presented to George Meany, AFL president.

Hutcheson said in his letter that his 600,000-man organization was disaffiliating because of the no-raiding agreement. Earlier, Meany had said that the vote on that issue had not been unanimous. He refused at that time to name the opposition. Hutcheson said that the AFL action showed that the federation was more interested in "the affairs of the CIO than they are with those of the federation."

Gov. Williams Raps 'Surrender' On Hells Canyon

Eugene, Ore. (LPA)—Gov. G. Mennen Williams of Michigan told the Western Oregon Democrats at their annual picnic here how the rest of the country feels about the attitude of Interior Secretary McKay toward the Hells Canyon controversy.

"The entire nation shares the indignation of the Northwest at the ignominious surrender of the Administration to private power interests at Hells Canyon," Gov. Williams said. "A philosophy of timidity is exposed in that decision."

"The excuse for turning Hells Canyon over to private exploiters is the claim we cannot afford to develop the greatest potential source of public power in the nation. America, in the Republican philosophy, is over-extended and over-developed. This poor, small, backward nation cannot afford the outlay to develop the industries of the Northwest, to protect your communities against floods, to produce cheap fertilizer and irrigating waters for your farmers."

Williams pointed out to the Oregon Democrats that McKay, "the Cabinet member who gave away Hells Canyon, is one of your local boys." He said that Michigan itself had "two local boys (Wilson and Summerfield) down there in that same Cabinet, and I have seen no evidence that they, any more than Secretary McKay, now remember what state they came from."

Carp. Auxiliary Sale Sept. 5

Date of the rummage sale by the Ladies Auxiliary of Monterey Carpenters Union 1323 is Saturday, September 5, at Carpenters Hall, 778 Hawthorne Street.

Members having items to contribute for the rummage sale may call any Auxiliary officer.

Message for Revision Of Taft-Hartley Law Never Gets Delivered

Washington (LPA)—The message that never got delivered was one calling for revisions of the Taft-Hartley law favorable to labor. Eisenhower reportedly was to have sent the 11th-hour recommendations to Congress Aug. 3. Congressional backers of the act, with Vice-President Nixon said to have played a leading role, blocked the move; then a White House spokesman gave it out that the message was only a "draft."

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A record-breaking increase in insurance premium tax collections will occur this year as the result of State Board of Equalization assessments totaling \$34,326,345. The \$5,150,000 excess over last year's assessments indicates that the 644 companies authorized to write insurance policies in California did 17.6 per cent more business in the state in 1952 than they did in 1951.



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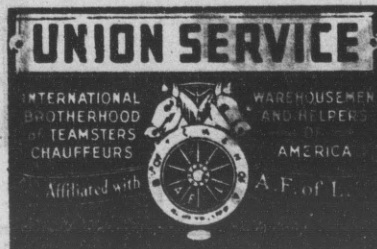
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Brother Ed Peterson attended the State Federation of Labor Convention in San Francisco last week. Your secretary attended sessions regarding frozen food division. A division is being set up within the cannery council covering all frozen food workers in California. We hope to bring about more uniform agreements as there is a great variation in wages and conditions that must be brought up in order for us to make continued progress for these workers.

CONTRACTS

LOCAL FREIGHT: We are

CARPENTERS NEWS

N. Calif. Round-up

Up at Snohomish, Wash. (that's quite a name in itself), names make news, as follows: Ralph McGoon (who is no labor goon) was elected president of L&SW Local 2631. Further, Robert Bump (who is no bump on a log) was elected vice-pres. And further, Bernard Cool (who must keep cool) was named conductor.

Fin. Secy. Leslie Buck of Martinez 2046 took a vacation, but in addition to fishing he quizzed the boys about wages and found this: at Salmon, Ida., pay is \$1.50; Ontario, Ore., \$1.75. He got plenty of fish on Lemhi and Lost rivers. . . . Chet Bartalini, BR of Bay Counties District, just has bad luck deer hunting; last year got horse-kicked, broken jaw, this year a run-away caused by a rattler, with the horse finally sitting on his leg.

San Jose notes: BTC votes against Army Street crossing for Southbay; J. H. Pomeroy gets main contract for \$50 million Ford plant at Milpitas. . . . Carpenters took big part in State Fed convention in S.F., with 192 delegates representing Cal's 140,000 members. (Then came news of the divorce action and nobody quite knew the score.) . . . San Luis Obispo CLC named Louis Kreinbring of Local 1632 as president. . . . Typical sociable Carpenter is Art Blofield down in Santa Barbara Local 1062; that guy has made more people happy than anybody. . . . Modesto 1235 considering building their own building.

Businessmen were too busy making money, but members of Glendale, Ore., L&SW Local 2716 dug in and raised enough money to establish summer camp for crippled children of Oregon. . . . Carpenters head up committee to raise funds to finish present building program of Eureka General Hospital, founded by organized labor in 1906 and one of the very few such hospitals in the U.S. . . . You've probably heard by now about Bro. Lafayette Counts of Oakland 36, who walked off with crocheting honors at Alameda County fair. He's a foreman at his house.

Good comment from Vic La Chapelle of Sacramento: "The labor disputes we have had this year are not because the unions have suddenly gone crazy. They are the result of a well planned program of big business and capital generating from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the N.A.M. They feel that with this administration they have the best opportunity to lick organized labor that they have had in more than 20 years. And their plan is to resist the unions on any and all proposals." . . . That's all for this week, except what Carpenter Pete says about brunets, "there'd be a lot more of 'em if so many hadn't dyed." (F. A.)

having a further meeting with employers as we feel there is a possibility of a further increase.

PLUMBING SHOPS: Meetings have been held with the plumbing supply shops and this contract is almost settled.

SERVICE STATIONS: We hope to report in our next bulletin that a contract has been signed with the Beacon Service Stations.

PRODUCE DRIVERS: Our International Union is entering into these negotiations and a meeting will be called very shortly for this group.

FURNITURE DIVISION: The contract for furniture drivers has been opened, and meetings will be held with the industry this week.

CANNERIES: The cannery agreement is being drawn up and the companies will be notified as to the various changes, and retro-active pay should be forthcoming shortly.

We wish to extend our condolences to the family of Ray Schmidt who was fatally injured in an accident while employed by the Spigel Farms Company.

Thomas Blackwell was injured last week while working for Central Supply, when a power line hit him. Tom is in the Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital and will welcome all who wish to visit him.

Office secretary, Bernice Redlin is now vacationing in Yosemite and will be back on the job again Monday morning.

LITTLE LEAGUE: The Teamsters Little League Team finished in first place in the National League with a four game margin. A Little League bar-b-que will be held August 23 and trophies will be awarded at that time. One player on the team, Herb Barton is Robinson Park batting champion with an average of .627, and ten home runs for the season to his credit. Brother Pierre Richlin managed the team, and very ably too, with Walter Smith giving him lots of assistance. We wish to commend you, Pierre and Walt, on a job well done.

BLOOD DONORS in August were: Fred Adams, Joe Abercrombie, Ray Johnson, Bob Miller, Charles Parker, Earl Randolph, Gerald Shackelford and Vernon Shackelford.

FISHERMEN Joe and Dominic Massolo recently took 43 pound salmon from the Monterey Bay. Another brother, Atillio brought in a 20 pounder the same day. This is not one of the well known "fish stories", we saw the picture proving it.

July Jobs Set New Record

Washington (LPA)—Total employment in July at 63,120,000 set an all-time record for that month, the Commerce Department announced Aug. 4, up about a million from July a year ago and roughly 2,700,000 greater than in 1950, at the start of the Korean conflict.

The department's figures include the self-employed and unpaid workers in family enterprises as well as wage and salary employees. Unemployment estimated at 1,548,000 was figured at about 2.4 per cent of all civilian workers; in July 1952 it was about 2 per cent. Non-farm employment, estimated at 55,492,000 showed little overall change from June, but the Department said some sectors revealed "significant" changes.

Tired of slanted news? Give to LLPE.

One Lone Demo Left on NLRB

Washington (LPA)—Resignation of Paul L. Styles from the National Labor Relations Board, effective Aug. 31, permits President Eisenhower to make his third appointment to the five-member board. Styles' term does not expire until December 1954.

Eisenhower already has named Guy Farmer to succeed Paul Herzog as NLRB chairman and Philip Ray Rogers to replace John Houston, whose resignation becomes effective Aug. 27.

Styles' resignation leaves Abe Murdock as the only remaining Democrat on the board and it is expected that this will halt a Republican drive to enlarge the board to seven members to give the GOP majority representation. One board member, Ivar H. Peterson, former administrative assistant to Sen. Wayne Morse (I., Ore.) is an Independent.

School Segregation Case Ruling Is Delayed Again

Washington (LPA)—The public school race segregation case has again been put off by the Supreme Court. A decision was expected this past June before the court recessed for the summer, but the judges announced then that they would hear further arguments Oct. 12.

Now this date has been pushed back to Dec. 7 to give the Justice Department more time to work on a brief. Segregation laws in Kansas, South Carolina, Virginia, Delaware and the District of Columbia are involved.

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Firm Boasted of Runaway; Now Has to Pay Plenty

North Dighton, Mass. (LPA) — A textile firm that fled from here to Butner, N.C., to get away from the CIO Textile Workers and then told all about it in a newspaper interview has been ordered to make an expensive repentance by the National Labor Relations Board.

The NLRB ordered Mount Hope Finishing Co. to offer job reinstatements to about 400 employees who lost their jobs

when the firm closed its plant here in October 1951 and took off for Butner. The employees also are to be reimbursed for any pay they lost during the period. Estimates of what this will amount to have ranged from \$500,000 to \$4,000,000.

If the company doesn't choose to reopen its North Dighton plant, then it must offer the former employees of that plant jobs in Butner, paying their moving expenses to the new location and getting rid of present employees there to make room for them if necessary. All those who can't be placed at present are to be put on a rehiring list for future job openings.

The company also must make a lost-pay settlement with another 65 employees whom it laid off quicker than it had planned because of the dispute with the union. The 65 had been marked by the firm to join a previous 120 in an economy lay-off, but were let out sooner than scheduled as a move against the union.

The CIO Textile Workers asked for recognition at the North Dighton plant on July 28, 1951, but the company refused to bargain and insisted on an election. Three days later, the speed-up discharge of the 65 workers occurred.

The union went on strike Aug. 13 because of the discriminatory lay-offs and the refusal to bargain. On Sept. 17, TWUA won an NLRB election 369-210 (laid-off employees were permitted to vote) and two days later Robert Milliken, Mount Hope assistant treasurer, announced in an interview in the Fall River Herald News that the plant would "close permanently within 30 days."

The newspaper story also contained quotes from Milliken saying the company was "fed up" with the union and "just can't take it any longer" and that "the door is closed now and forever between the union and company." Milliken also was quoted as saying the "company still is looking toward the south as a possibility."

Milliken later tried to wriggle out of the newspaper story by

using the old line that he was misquoted but the NLRB decided that Reporter Herman Mello had written "a fair and accurate record" of the interview.

The company also tried to get around the runaway charge by insisting that the Butner plant is an entirely separate operation from the Massachusetts plant. The NLRB, however, decided that Butner was but the "alter ego" of North Dighton, since some \$750,000 worth of machinery was moved from the northern to the southern plant and the same company officials are involved.

To top it all off, the NLRB ruled that if enough North Dighton workers choose to move to Butner to give TWUA a majority, Mount Hope must bargain with the union there.

Health Plans Now Cover 750,000 Calif. Workers

Collective bargaining agreements covering more than 765,000 California workers now provide for health and welfare plans, the California Dept. of Industrial Relations announced last week. This was revealed in a recent study of union agreements made by the Division of Labor Statistics and Research of the State Department of Industrial Relations. The number of workers now covered by union agreements with health and welfare plans is two and one-half times the number found in a similar study made in December 1950.

About 1 in 5 of the workers covered by these plans contributes part of the cost of the premium. For around 4 out of 5, the employer pays the entire cost.

Health and welfare plans financed solely by the employer are included in agreements covering more than 600,000 workers. In contracts covering almost half of these workers, benefits provided by the employer's premium are extended to cover the workers' dependents. Life insurance is provided for about 85 per cent of the workers covered by agreements providing health benefits.

Of the 765,000 workers covered by agreements containing health and welfare plans, about 700,000 are covered by plans which provide for such benefits as hospitalization, surgical and medical care. About 65,000 workers are covered by agreements which provide employer-financed cash sickness disability benefits but do not provide hospital, surgical or other medical benefits. These employees are for the most part in telecommunications and in the maritime industry.

For about two-thirds of the workers covered by contracts with health plans, information was available on the amount the employer contributes to the cost of health and life insurance. In these contracts, the employer contribution averages \$8.66 per month for a full-time employee. Excluding plans in which the employee also contributes toward the premium, the average employer contribution is \$9.30 per month per employee.

3-D Glasses Banned

Chicago (LPA)—Business is going to boom for the outfits that make the glasses used in movie houses showing 3-D pictures. The Chicago Board of Health has barred theaters from re-issuing used 3-D glasses. Dr. Herman N. Bundesen, board president, said the action was taken because of reported eye infections resulting from re-use of previously used glasses.

Eisenhower Signs Act Opposed by Labor To Give Up Rubber

Washington (LPA) — Legislation authorizing the government to dispose of its 28 synthetic rubber plants, opposed by labor as another of the administration's "give-aways," was signed by President Eisenhower Aug. 7. Net unrecovered cost to the taxpayers of the plants was placed at almost \$450,000,000.

The act, passed by Congress in the closing hours of its session, authorized the President to appoint a three-man disposal commission which would recommend to whom the plants should be sold and at what price. The report is to be submitted to Congress by next Jan. 3, for a decision on whether to accept the sales en masse or reject them individually. But plants not sold could not be operated by the government without Congressional approval.

The government built the plants during World War II when supplies of natural rubber from southeast Asia were cut off by Japanese invasions. Eisenhower had recommended disposal of the units.

URW Second CIO Union To Sign No-Raiding Agreement With IAM

Washington (LPA) — The AFL International Association of Machinists and a second CIO union have entered into a no-raiding agreement with the hope that it will further "eventual unity between the AFL and CIO." The new pact, between IAM and the CIO United Rubber Workers, is similar to one already in force between IAM and the CIO United Auto Workers.

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Interest Rates and the Debt

One big reason the Administration wants to raise the legal limit of the national debt by \$15 billion was glossed over by Treasury spokesmen. That is the increase in the cost of borrowing money—an increase stimulated by Secretary of the Treasury George Humphrey himself when he raised the interest rates on government bonds last spring.

As a result, the taxpayers of this nation will pay \$1 billion a year more just to finance the government's debt. In a few days, for instance, a \$2.8 billion loan on which the Treasury has been paying 2 per cent interest will come due. The Treasury hasn't the cash to pay it off, so it will ask for a renewal. Its new loan probably will cost it 2½ per cent in interest a year instead of 2 per cent—an increase of more than 30 per cent. Add another few millions to the cost of the debt.

In September, the Treasury will have to renew another \$7.9 billion in loans and pay at least ½ per cent more in interest on the renewal. Add another few millions to the cost of the debt.

Only defense and foreign aid are a bigger drain on the taxpayer than interest on the national debt. While the "new team" in Washington fires government clerks and cuts down on such things as the atomic energy program, civil defense and social welfare funds, it swallows up the savings by hiking the interest rates it has to pay.

It is certainly time that the people awoke and objected to their own money being controlled by big bankers, who charge them great sums (\$100 a year for \$1) for the "privilege" of using their own money. The interest racket is the biggest and worst of all time.

Memories

On Feb. 2, President Eisenhower said in his State of the Union message to Congress:

"The Administration intends to strengthen and to improve the services which the Department of Labor can render to the worker and to the whole national community."

But what has happened? Congress, with no dissent from the White House, crippled the department's Bureau of Labor Standards, which helps states to develop sound labor practice and laws regarding child labor, safety, workmen's compensation and minimum wages, and helps promote employment of the physically handicapped; slashed appropriations for the Wage and Hour Division which enforces the minimum wage, child labor and Walsh-Healey laws; and weakened the department generally.

The President also said in his message:

"We have now had five years' experience with the Labor-Management Act of 1947, commonly known as the Taft-Hartley Act. That experience has shown the need for some corrective action, and we should promptly proceed to amend the act."

What is the President's definition of "promptly"? One year? Two? Five? Ten? Twenty? A hundred?

Labor, the Liberals and all those who understand that communism is fed by misery and despair and are working to prevent that kind of misery and despair from spreading in the world, are doing the most in the fight against communism.—Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt.



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How long has it been since you took a look at your insurance policies? Have you checked the amount in your savings account lately? You would notice it immediately if your car had a bent fender or if the house needed painting. But what about those things you own that you don't see every day? Have you stopped to take a look at what you own as a result of your having engaged in work covered by Social Security? If you are like some 66 million other people in this country, you are probably fully insured under the Social Security law and therefore will be entitled to a retirement payment at age 65 if you continue work in covered employment or self-employment at least half of the time after 1950 up to the time you reach that age. The amount of your retirement benefits will be determined by your average earnings during these years when you are building up your credits.

But, you say, you are a long way from 65, and retirement seems like a dream instead of something real. Well, let's take another look at your Social Security protection. It really means more than just a retirement income at age 65 and after. It is family protection as well. In fact, for those who have young families the survivor's benefits are the most valuable part of your Social Security protection. In case of the death of the breadwinner at any age benefits are payable to all surviving children under the age of 18 and, in addition, to the mother of these children regardless of her age, as long as she has a child in her care who is entitled to such benefits.

This is protection you need and have right now. It should be considered along with your private life insurance, savings, investments, and other protection. So when you are counting up those private insurance policies, make an estimate of your Social Security protection, too; it is, in fact, two policies in one—a retirement policy for use at or after age 65, and family survivor's protection in case of your death at any age. A leaflet to aid in estimating your Social Security benefits can be obtained by writing, calling, or visiting your nearest Social Security office.

For further information on these or any other points regarding your Social Security, get in touch with the Social Security Field Office located at the address below.

Your Security Office is at 196 San Augustine St., San Jose 10. Phone CYPRESS 2-2480.

WHEEL BALANCE

Automobile wheels should be balanced on a wheel balancing machine whenever new tires are installed. Unbalanced wheels put a tremendous strain on the automobile steering mechanism and other vital parts.



Frank Edwards
SAYS:

Washington, D. C.

School Kids Lose . . .

The Senate voted to kill the Hill Amendment—45 to 43. The House passed the compromise bill minus the Hill Amendment. This prevents the school kids of America from having better schools through the use of funds from public oil lands to improve the school system. It has been a long, hard fight for a good cause—for 2½ years—and Sen. Lister Hill and his supporters are to be congratulated for carrying the battle for the Oil for Education Amendment to the bitter end. It may be regarded as a victory for the oil lobby at the expense of the school kids of America and their parents.

Progress Report:

The Administration has selected the personnel to head the Hoover Commission, which is to provide counsel in reorganizing the government. The commission consists of 6 politicians and 6 public members. Small business and labor are not represented.

The Administration has selected the delegates and alternates who will represent this nation at the United Nations. Small business and labor are not included.

For millions of Americans, taxes will be increased next year to help meet the huge deficit. Small business and labor will be included.

Social Security Sniping:

The fight against Social Security is being conducted quietly, lest it arouse the millions of people who now enjoy the benefits. Latest indication of the trend the wrecking crew has taken comes from the office of Rep. Carl T. Curtis of Nebraska. Curtis is chairman of the subcommittee on Social Security. His latest move is a letter addressed to his dear colleagues—the other members of Congress. This letter is asking other members of Congress to furnish Curtis with material which can be used against Social Security. It is strange but true, that this same Congressman Curtis who opposes Social Security for others, is himself assured of a fat pension from Congress—far more remunerative than Social Security.

JOKES. Etc.

Definition of nurse: a panhandler.

Psychoanalyst's motto: Every man a kink.

By being careful, one can live as cheaply as two could 10 years ago.

The gang of counterfeiters was doing a thriving business, avoiding even the hint of detection. Otherwise, though, they were plagued with troubles. Every week one or

another of them was bedded with illness; they lost heavily at the race tracks and poker games; their chief smashed up two Cadillacs in one week.

"Oh, well," one of them philosophized, "we don't have much fun, but we sure make a lot of money."

There was a sad incident one day in the heart of the Ozark Mountains. A farmer's mule kicked his mother-in-law to death. A tremendous crowd turned out for the funeral, but it was made up almost entirely of men. The minister commented, "This old lady must have been mighty popular because so many people will leave their work to come to her funeral."

"They're not here for the funeral," explained the farmer. "They're here to buy the mule."

Overheard on the beach this month: "My goodness, isn't that Fannie Brown over there?"

"I suppose you and your wife go out a good deal?"

"No; we are paying such high rent that we stay in all the time in order to get the full value of our money."

"Women are wiser than men because they know less and understand more."—James Stephens.

Many open minds should be closed for repairs.

A girl from the city watched several farmhands spreading hay to dry. After a few minutes she asked: "Are they looking for a needle?"

One doctor to another at the draft board induction center: "But on the other hand he's not in shape to be a civilian either."



ADVICE NEEDED—RKO Actress Janet Leigh asks rather timidly if you like her outfit. Do you? (LPA)

"UNION MAID"—A Serial Story



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IT'S LIKE TRYING TO PUSH BACK THE OCEAN ALONE!

--AND A LOT LESS FUN!

by Stan Jennings



LABOR DAY—Monday, Sept. 7th

All America pauses to hail "Mr. American," himself . . . the American working man. By the skill of his hands and mind. America has grown great and grown strong. Working with ever-better equipment and techniques, he is the world's greatest producer. He enjoys the world's highest standard of living. His freedom is America's freedom. His independence is America's independence. His future is America's future. Because, first, last, and all the time, he is American . . . in thought, word, deed and spirit!

Fed. Upset Over Carp. Secession

(Continued from Page One)

prevent labor disputes; Legion Commander William R. Burke, State Grange Master George Sehl-meyer, State Labor Commissioner Edward Park, and many, many others.

Only formal entertainment for delegates was the Convention Ball on Thursday night at the Fairmont Hotel. Various union groups held lesser affairs of their own with the doors wide open to all delegates.

OFFICERS ELECTED

In the election of officers, O. T. Satre, of Wilmington, retired and Roy Brewer, of San Pedro, was elected in his place. Secretary Haggerty, serving a two-year term, was not up for election this year. Elected were:

President—Thomas L. Pitts, Wholesale Delivery Drivers 848, Los Angeles.

Vice Presidents:

District 1—Max J. Osslo, Butchers 229, San Diego.

District 2—Jack T. Arnold, Culinary 681, Long Beach.

District 3—Elmer J. Doran, Hodcarriers 783, San Bernardino; Harvey Lundschen, Miscellaneous Employees 440, Los Angeles; C. T. Lehmann, Carpenters 25, Los Angeles; Pat Somerset, Screen Actors Guild, Hollywood; William C. Carroll, Operating Engineers 12, Los Angeles; John T. Gardner, Municipal Truck Drivers 403, Los Angeles.

District 4—Roy Brewer, Lumber & Sawmill Workers 1407, San Pedro.

District 5—William A. Dean, Painters 715, Santa Barbara.

District 6—Paul L. Reeves, Plumbers & Steamfitters 246, Fresno.

District 7—C. A. Green, Plasterers & Cement Masons 429, Modesto.

District 8—Thomas A. Small, Culinary-Bartenders 340, San Mateo.

District 9—Arthur F. Dougherty, Bartenders 41, San Francisco; George Kelly, Chauffeurs 265, San

Nevada AFL Hits 'Right to Work' Law, Names Ryan

At its annual convention held in White Pine High school at Ely last week, Nevada State Federation of Labor adopted a resolution calling for enactment of a "Fair Play" law which is designed to counteract the recently enacted "Right to Work" law.

The latter measure is an employer-sponsored effort to weaken and kill off labor unions in the state. It literally gives the workers the right to work for whatever wages they can get out of an employer, competing for lower and lower rates, and wholly lacking the protection of union wage-bargaining and union dispatching to jobs. Full details of the "Fair Play" measure were not obtainable here, though it is expected they propose that the "right to work" law be operated on an optional basis.

Harry Depaoli of Reno, who has served four terms as president of the Nevada federation, recently was appointed director of the Nevada Employment Security department. James G. "Sailor" Ryan, federation secretary and business agent of Las Vegas Laborers, was elected as new president of the federation. Louis Paley of Reno was elected secretary-treasurer.

Francisco; Harry Lundberg, Sailors Union, San Francisco; Victor A. Swanson, Operating Engineers 3, San Francisco.

District 10—Robert S. Ash, Central Labor Council, Oakland; Paul L. Jones, Laborers 304, Oakland.

District 11—Howard Reed, Teamsters 315, Martinez.

District 12—Lowell Nelson, Plasterers & Cement Masons 631, Vallejo.

District 13—Harry Finks, Cannery Workers 857, Sacramento.

District 14—Albin J. Gruhn, Hodcarriers & Laborers 181, Eureka.

District 15—Robert Giesick, Lumber & Sawmill Workers 2647, Greenville.

Approve Drought Aid

Congress approved a bill providing \$150 million for drought-stricken cattlemen and farmers of the Southwest. The bill makes it easier for farm operators to borrow money from the Federal Government. Under present law, no emergency loans may be made for less than \$2,500.

Scientists find that Gulf of Mexico was never land area.

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GREETINGS

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LESTER A. CAVENY
(Business Agent)

ROY HUMBRACHT
(Secretary-Treasurer)

NAM COMES OUT IN OPEN WITH SALES TAX SCHEME

Washington (LPA)—The undercover campaign for a national sales tax came out in the open recently when the National Association of Manufacturers recommended that current excise taxes be replaced by a general 4½ to 5 per cent tax on all manufactured goods except food and food products.

Only NAM didn't call its proposal a national sales tax. It gave it the name of "manufacturers' excise" and recommended that it be placed at the manufacturers' level because it would be "easier and cheaper" to administer and because such a plan "would not compete directly with state use of retail taxes."

However, placing any tax at the manufacturers' level usually results in the consumer being struck for even more than the amount of the tax because retailers have a habit of marking up prices to make a profit even on the tax.

In testimony before the House Ways and Means Committee, NAM President Charles R. Sligh Jr. said that present excise taxes, which range from a few per cent to over 30 per cent, are "discriminatory."

Under the NAM plan, these taxes, on jewelry, furs, autos, gasoline, cosmetics, women's handbags, etc., would come off and these items would be placed under the same

4½ to 5 per cent levy as all other manufactured goods.

Sligh said NAM's proposal would not give the federal government any more money—excise taxes now bring in about \$10 billion a year—but would be "equitable, fair to everyone." Taxes on tobacco products and liquor would be lowered, but would still be maintained at a higher level than other products.

Anything in the nature of a general sales tax has been strongly opposed by organized labor because it would fall most heavily on lower income groups which make up the greatest part of the consumer market.

And regardless of what NAM called its tax proposal, the Associated Press flatly termed it a "national sales tax" and said NAM's "argument was one that some Congressmen expect to hear from the Eisenhower Administration next January" in support of such a tax.

Ike's 'Economy' Further Shrinks Wage-Hour Div.

Washington (LPA) — Nineteen field offices of the Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions are being closed. This will leave 44 offices to cover the country, 10 of them regional offices.

This translates in part the effect of the 22 per cent budget slash voted by the 83rd Congress for the organization which administers and enforces the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act. In terms of staff, Wage-Hour is being cut from 1,375 jobs to 1,040.

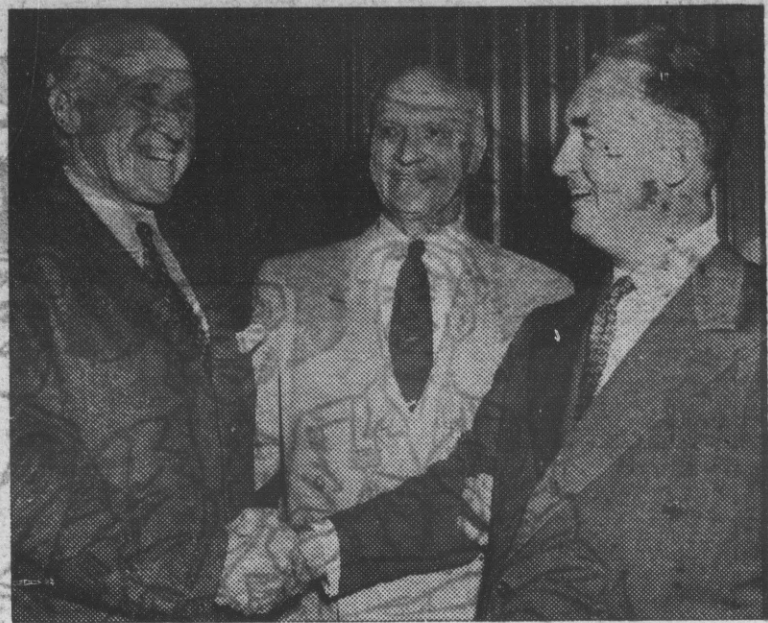
The division spent \$7,639,139 in fiscal year 1953. This was out by Congress to \$6,250,000. While the cuts were pending, the Administrator, William McComb, and Secretary of Labor Martin Durkin had decided that the most effective way to absorb the cuts would be to close the three regional offices at Kansas City, Nashville and Boston. The conference report, as approved by Congress, directed, however, that "none of the . . . regional offices be closed."

The field offices being closed are located at Manchester, N.H.; Springfield, Mass.; Syracuse, N.Y.; Camden, N.J.; Roanoke, Va.; Mobile, Ala.; Memphis, Tenn.; Savannah, Ga.; Miami, Fla.; Columbus and Toledo, Ohio; South Bend, Ind.; Madison, Wis.; Sioux City, Ia.; Fort Worth and El Paso, Tex.; Shreveport, La., and Wichita, Kan. Because of the administrative details involved, the offices will not be closed on a single day but will all be out of business before the end of August.

The Washington staff of Wage and Hour is being trimmed from 283 jobs to 224, a cut of 59 jobs. The field organization is going from 1,092 jobs to 816, a drop of 276. Actual cut in the force of inspectors will be 124, from 612 to 488. The operation of "bumping rights" as the reduction in force goes forward will take some time before all of the cuts have been made and the remaining jobs finally matched up with those having the job rights under civil service and veterans' preference regulations. The field information staff is being reduced from 10 to 4.

Prompt action by survivors entitled to benefit payments under the Social Security Act will avoid loss of benefits. Contact your nearby social security office.

Reduced emphasis on European rearmament is urged.



CONGRATS FROM THE BOSS—Spencer J. Miller Jr., left, of East Orange, N.J., receives congratulations from Secy. of Labor Martin Durkin, right, and Sen. H. Alexander (R., N.J.), after Miller was sworn in as Assistant Secretary of Labor. Miller formerly was director of the AFL Workers Education Bureau and a member of the American Federation of Teachers.

"The best thing for you," said the doctor, "is to give up drinking and smoking, go to bed early, and get up early." "Doctor," said the patient, "I don't deserve the best. What's the second best?"

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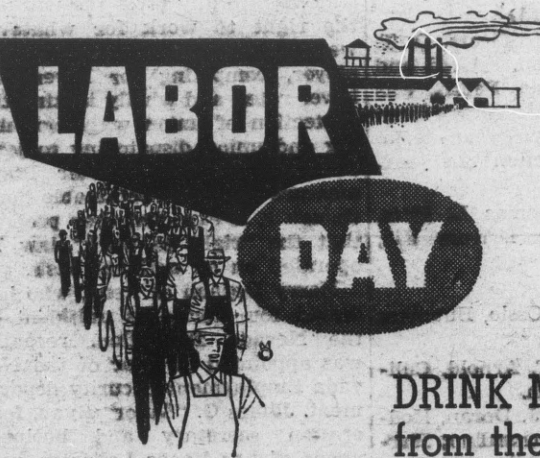
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tribute to the working men and women
of America.

May we all pull together for a peaceful world
and a greater and richer America

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People of Northwest Reviving 'Lost Cause'

Attempt to Give Private Power Companies Fruit of Millions Spent by Federal Government on Hells Canyon, Idaho, Being Resisted by Labor and Farmers of States Affected

By BARROW LYONS

(This is the first of several articles discussing the Hells Canyon case)

One of the most momentous problems which the Federal Power Commission has ever faced is now before it in the Hells Canyon case. The problem arises from an application of the Idaho Power Company to construct a series of three low dams on a site where the Bureau of Reclamation under the Democratic administration proposed to erect a 722-foot power dam and 93-mile long reservoir on the Snake River where its

course forms the boundary between Idaho and Oregon. Testimony is now being taken in Washington, D.C., by Federal Power Commission Examiner William E. Costello.

Thus, the FPC becomes the arbiter of whether plans for the coordinated development of the vast resources of the Northwest comprised in the drainage basin of the Columbia River and its tributaries is best served by the Idaho Power Company's plans, or the proposals developed by the Bureau of Reclamation, Department of Interior, with the aid and cooperation of the Bonneville Power Administration, Corps of Engineers of the Army, and other Government agencies.

So far apart are the claims made for these rival proposals that a finding for one or the other must brand the Government technicians as incompetents or liars, or it will stamp this stigma upon the engineers, economists and other experts of the Idaho Power Company.

TECHNICIANS ON THE SPOT

The strangest element in this case lies in the position of the Government engineers, geologists, economists, agronomists and other authorities who have been working on the problem for years, and who have been virtually unanimous in supporting the proposal made by the Bureau of Reclamation and concurred in by the Columbia Basin Inter Agency Committee.

These men in the Interior Department, who have directed the use of hundreds of thousands of dollars of public funds in developing their plan for a high Hells Canyon Dam, can now testify in support of their efforts—and their professional reputations—only at the risk of undermining the political attitudes of White House appointees who supervise their work. If they are called, it will be as witnesses of the FPC, an agency not always friendly to the position of the Interior Department, but which is to determine whether the proposal of interior engineers is a house of cards to be destroyed in favor of the Idaho Power Company, or whether the presentation of the private company is to be discredited.

Their predicament developed on May 5 when their boss, Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay, suddenly decided to withdraw his department from the case. His two immediate predecessors, Secretaries Julius A. Krug and Oscar L. Chapman, were convinced that a Government dam at Hells Canyon would produce electrical energy at a lower cost than any dam, or series of dams, that the Idaho Power Company might build. More recently, government engineers have calculated that Idaho Power Company electricity produced at Hells Canyon, would cost to produce twice as much as Government power. If the higher cost plant were constructed, industrial development of the Northwest would be retarded, Krug and Chapman held.

McKAY CREATED PROBLEM

When McKay withdrew he forbade his technicians to participate in the hearings. But when the public utility districts, farm and labor organizations, who looked for great benefits from a high Hells Canyon Dam, stepped into McKay's place, because they felt the interests of the people of the Northwest had been abandoned, McKay consented to permit his engineers to testify. This he has done with a gesture of generosity, despite his prejudicial remark before the Portland (Ore-

gon) Chamber of Commerce on June 1 that "in my opinion the Idaho Power Company should build these three dams."

But, it can be assumed that the FPC, which has not always been friendly to positions taken by the Interior Department, even under Democratic administrations, may not deal over-sympathetically with men from a department with which it has carried on a long standing bureaucratic feud, even when an Interior Secretary offers his technicians as human sacrifices.

For many years some members of the Federal Power Commission have appeared to be jealous of the authority exercised by the Army's Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation in sharing the millions of dollars appropriated for the study of river basin development, and many more millions in the construction of vast public works under plans authorized by Congress. Yet, under the law the FPC was charged with safeguarding the public interest in all applications for licenses to construct hydroelectric plants. What is more, the Federal Water Power Act of 1920 made it mandatory upon the commission to determine whether any private application to construct a hydro plant would promote comprehensive development of a river basin for the production of power, navigation, flood control, and other uses.

It was charged also with determining whether it would be better for the Government to construct the project than for the private company to do so; and if, in its opinion, that was the case, it was to recommend the project to Congress as a public enterprise. There appears to be no record of the FPC making such a recommendation, any more than there is of its having invoked the clause that a private utility must turn surplus profits over to the Government.

FPC'S DAY ARRIVES

In practice, the FPC generally has deferred to the judgment of experts in other Government agencies, who had more funds and facilities to make determinations in plans for river basin development. And the right of the Commission to break up a plan authorized by Congress for comprehensive river basin development and hand the choicest power site to a private utility for exploitation, was established only last Spring by the United States Supreme Court in the Roanoke Rapids case. Although a minority of the justices branded the decision as an outrage, it invested the commission with power it never had exercised.

Now the FPC's big day has arrived. It can cut a wide swath with the long-sought prerogative to veto plans of the Interior Department or the Corps of Engineers by deciding whether their engineers and other experts have acted wisely and in the public interest. And, if its findings are translated into dams and power stations, they will affect the economic development of the Nation for generations to come. Great dams when built cannot be repealed by Congress.

PEOPLE RISE TO DEFENSE

Drama is created at the hearings before Examiner Costello by the manner in which public utility districts of the Northwest, and others seeking low-cost public power in greater supply because of acute energy shortages, have replaced

Secretary McKay as intervenors.

Defending the position of the Northwest PUDs, labor and farm groups, is the firm of Davidson & Nikoloric. C. Girard Davidson, senior member of the firm, was formerly Assistant Secretary of the Interior in charge of power projects. Representing the firm at the hearings is Mrs. Evelyn N. Cooper, Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior under Secretaries Krug and Chapman.

At Mrs. Cooper's right hand sits Leland Olds, formerly chairman of the Federal Power Commission, whose reappointment Congress refused to confirm because of his opposition to privileges demanded by the natural gas companies. Former Secretary Krug is providing engineering talent to analyze the claims of the Idaho Power Company and support the Government proposal developed, in part, under his authority.

Thus, what seemed only a few weeks ago to be a lost cause to the people of the Northwest, now that they are organizing has acquired able defenders.

(The second of this series will describe how people of the Northwest have rallied to defend their property rights and interest in low-cost power.)

FORTUNATE MEETING

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Star Lines

By
LOIS
MORAN

There are some 1200 mental patients at Veterans' Hospital, veterans of World Wars I and II, Korea—and maybe that sweet little old guy who sits in the sun, smiling and gracious, could be a vet of an earlier war.

The majority of these men need enormous doses of T.L.C. They receive the finest of medical attention from a magnificent staff of doctors, nurses, therapists and attendants, who also give them all they can of T.L.C. There are not enough of these fine people, though, to administer the massive doses of T.L.C. these men need. That is where the volunteer worker is of value. Volunteers supplement, aid the staff, and provide what could be an inexhaustible supply of T.L.C. But there is a shortage of volunteers, so a lot of guys are not getting enough "Tender, Loving Care".

L.M.Y.

Teamster Notes

(Cal.-Labor Press Release)

Alameda County Draymen's agreement with Local 70 calls for two new paid holidays Memorial and Admission days, and all holidays to be paid for regardless of day of the week on which they may fall. . . . Stockton 439 asks strike sanction on furniture dealers. . . . Robert Van Lier of Modesto 386 got not only his first but also his second deer, 78 and 127 pounds, 60 mi. W. of Dos Palos recently.

Big victory of Teamsters in the canneries has caused a lot of healthy respect for the union, not only by the 35,000 members in 65 plants, but also by the employers, and by workers in related fields. . . . Santa Maria 381 warns quite a few bad accidents on 101 of late, so take it easy there, everywhere.

Heads Teamster Unit

San Francisco—New head of one of the largest Teamster units in the nation is Harold Lopez, Local 85 business manager and member of the City Planning Commission. General Hauling Division, Western Conference of Teamsters, elected him president.

Support the labor press!

Monterey County

Labor News

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1953

Organizer Survives One Ambush, Dies in Second

Hyden, Ky. (LPA)—Apparently the victim of a second ambush attack within little more than six months, Charles Vehmillion, United Mine Workers organizer, was found dead of gunshot wounds in his car on a highway near here Aug. 6.

Last Jan. 30, not far from the death scene, Vehmillion and three other UMW members and organi-

zers were wounded in a shotgun ambush as they returned from a union meeting. Demanding a state police investigation, UMW International Representative Tom Raney said he was convinced Vehmillion was "killed by persons who tried it before."

A delegation of Lebanese trade unionists visiting Britain left a bronze plaque at Transport House, London, for Sir Vincent Tewson, general secretary of the Trades Union Congress, as a tribute to his work for the free trade unions of the world.

OLDEST APPLE TREES

Gravenstein apples were first planted in California by the Russians at Fort Ross, in 1811. Two of the original trees are still alive and bearing.

NAM Urges 5% Sales Tax

The National Association of Manufacturers continues to demand a national sales tax. It asked Congress to enact a tax of 4½ to 5 per cent on all manufactured goods except food and food products.

NAM President Charles Sligh Jr. told the House Ways and Means Committee that roughly \$10 billion could be raised through a federal sales levy.

Secretary of the Treasury George Humphrey has said he is considering a sales tax as part of a broad tax revision formula.

The NAM proposal would mean that such things as dresses, suits, shoes, books, automobiles, medicine, cooking utensils and thousands of other items bought daily by working people would automatically jump in price.

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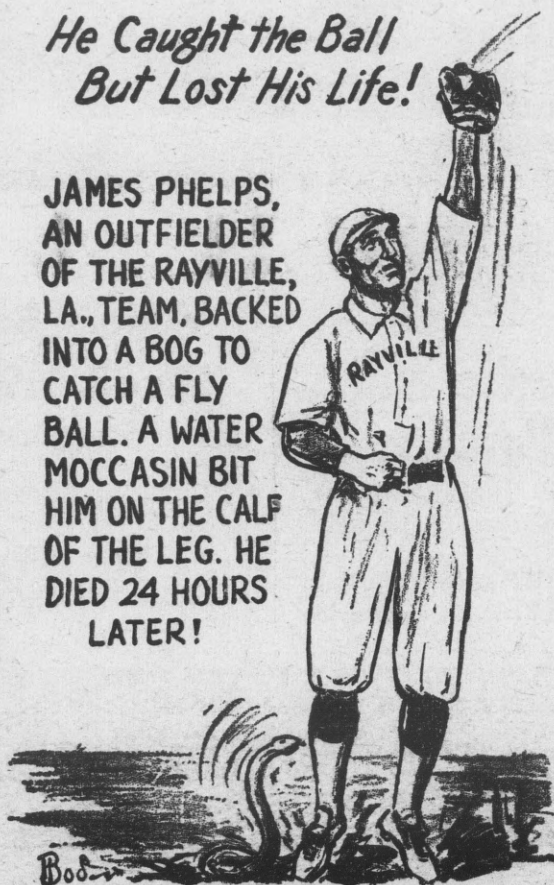
CALIFORNIA

NO KIDDIN'

By CLEM BODDINGTON

*He Caught the Ball
But Lost His Life!*

JAMES PHELPS,
AN OUTFIELDER
OF THE RAYVILLE,
LA., TEAM, BACKED
INTO A BOG TO
CATCH A FLY
BALL. A WATER
MOCCASIN BIT
HIM ON THE CALF
OF THE LEG. HE
DIED 24 HOURS
LATER!



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